

BIG ROW THERE.

DR. JONES OPENS AN OLD SORE.

The Payne-Tancil Suit.

CHURCH HILL LINEN WASHED IN FIRST BAPT. CHURCH

Brother Bowler Defends His Wife.

WANTED TO KNOCK WILLIAMS DOWN.

The Ringsters Whipped Out.

WILD SCENES OF DISORDER.

Rev. Johnson Powerless.

Rev. W. T. Johnson, B. D., the recently installed pastor of the First Baptist Church, vice Rev. James H. Holmes, D. D., deceased was on last Monday night the central figure in one of the stormiest church-meetings yet held in the church edifice.

NO LOVE FEAST THERE.

The beginning was peaceful and betokened a love feast, but the ending was violent and disgraceful. The cause of it was the motion offered by Rev. J. E. Jones, D. D., proposing the rescinding of the resolution which bars Rev. Evans Payne, pastor of the 4th Baptist Church from the pulpit of the First Baptist Church.

REV. PAYNE'S CHAMPION.

In this he was seconded by Brother Nelson Williams, Jr., who forged the names to the application for the meeting. Echoes from the Payne-Tancil suit scandal at the trial were plainly heard at this meeting. Rev. Dr. Jones again appeared as the special champion of Rev. Payne's cause, but the church was lost by an overwhelming majority.

THE RE-COUNT DISASTROUS.

The charge of fraud and the call for a recount only emphasized the decision previously rendered and the motion was again ignominiously buried under a storm of noes. Rev. W. T. Johnson, B. D. conducted the count himself and although he seemed to lean to the side of the Payne advocates, he announced the decision of the house with judicial impartiality.

WENT WAY BACK.

That the Payne advocates felt the effect of the crushing defeat was evident. Brother Nelson Williams, Jr., who forged the names to the application for the meeting had previously whispered to the chairman, and then he went way back and sat down. Brother Thomas H. Briggs, whose bad record is known from Screamer'sville to Rocketts was in evidence, but outside of moving that the church be called to order and voting, he was as silent as the grave.

NO LONGER RECOGNIZED.

He does not now receive the recognition that he once enjoyed. He is not invited into the pulpit as of yore, and together with Brother Robert Watkins, who was guard at the penitentiary during the Readjuster Rule, he can talk of things that used to be, but now are no more. "Bro. I move that she be silenced!" William Henry Davis was bobbing up and down like a sample-jack. He as yet resembles a Turk with the seat of his breeches at the bend in the knee.

BROTHER CARTER'S BREECHES.

Brother Henry G. Carter, who no longer wears those big leg white breeches and shad-belly coat, no doubt on account of the cool breezes and wintry winds which would find their way to the utmost part of his anatomy, was very much disgusted over the failure of the programme.

The culminating part of the whole affair was the altercation between Brother Nelson Williams, Jr., who forged the names to the application for the meeting and Brother Daniel Bowler, formerly a member of the 4th Baptist Church.

REFLECTED ON HIS WIFE.

Brother Nelson Williams, Jr., who forged the names to the application for

the meeting said, that Mrs. Bowler was the cause of all that fuss in the 4th Baptist Church.

He did not know that Brother Daniel Bowler, her husband, was near. Then things got lively. Brother Bowler was defending his wife and he seemed very anxious to show the brother of the big breeches brigade just what he could do with his fists. He told him that it was a good thing that they were in the church.

A FIGHT WAS IMMINENT.

Friends got between the combatants and light was prevented. Brother Bowler declared the utterances of Brother Nelson Williams, Jr., who forged the names to the application for the meeting, to be false, and declared that he was prepared to prove it false. Brother Bowler was wrathful, and the more he thought about it the hotter he got.

Sexton Tharp came up and attempted to quiet the brother and he went out, but the other brother didn't. Some thought Brother Nelson Williams, Jr., who forged the names to the application for the meeting, and who more than ever had the appearance of the shaking hind-quarters of a street elephant had scaled the church walls or jumped over the back fence, but later he came out, walked towards the wrathful Brother Bowler and apologized.

A STINGING REBUKE.

Brother Bowler said to Dr. J. E. Jones that if you people continue to substantiate and uphold this man, Williams, you are as guilty as he is and you are all sleeping under the same blanket. In fact, you are no better than he is.

Truly has a day of mourning come to the First Baptist Church. Christian forbearance and biblical humility seems to have gone never to return.

THE PROCEEDING IN DETAIL.

The regular meeting of the First Baptist Church took place Monday night in the lecture room. Rev. W. T. Johnson, B. D. presiding. Owing to the indisposition of Brother E. P. Vandervall, the church clerk, Brother Thomas H. Wyatt discharged the duties.

Brother Thomas H. Briggs, whose bad record is known from Screamer'sville to Rocketts moved that the church be called to order. After the transaction of routine business the usual questions, being asked, the committee made their report.

COMMENDED THE OFFICERS.

This being the end of the 4th quarter, the auditing committee made its report for the year. It commended the officers for the faithful discharge of their duties.

Rev. R. J. Bass stated that as this was the first meeting in the year, it was the first meeting to elect officers. He moved that all officers remain as they are for the next twelve months. This was seconded.

DEACON SMITH'S OBJECTIONS.

Deacon Harrison Smith opposed the motion. He was not in favor of it because there had been complaints against the sexton, (Wm. H. Tharp).

He did not think that the people should continue to complain about the condition and the way the church was kept by the sexton and then at the time of the election say nothing. He thought that it was the proper place to complain in order that the sexton know that somebody else could be sexton besides himself.

WANTED HIM TO DO BETTER.

Deacon Smith said he was not opposed to the present sexton, but thought that such a statement would cause the sexton to do better in the future.

The motion of Brother Bass prevailed and silence reigned.

Brother Nelson Williams, D. D. moved that the First Baptist Church rescind its action in denying to Rev. Payne the privilege of the pulpit.

PANDEMONIUM REIGNED.

This was seconded and the scene which followed was one long to be remembered. "Brother Chairman! Brother Chairman!" was heard from all parts of the house. For twenty persons were clamoring for recognition. In vain Chairman Johnson called for order. Then the excitement subsided and Rev. Jones was permitted to proceed. He stated that he was in favor of morality.

WANTED PAYNE IN THE PULPIT.

Brother Jones continued to state why he thought Rev. Payne should be accorded the privilege of the First Baptist Church pulpit.

Then arose Brother Nelson Williams, Jr., who forged the names to the application for the meeting, and moved that the resolution be received and adopted. Pandemonium reigned. On every side arose the clamor for recognition. Chairman Johnson "was in a strait twist two." Finally, he recognized the senior deacon, Benjamin Harris. He begged the church to let the Payne matter remain where it was,—on the outside.

DEACON WILDER'S WARNING.

He was followed by Deacon James Wilder, who in sympathetic tones

pleaded with the church to let the matter remain on Church-hill. He declared that Rev. Payne had a fair and impartial trial before the judiciary of this state, that his case had gone to the Supreme Court of Appeals and that it had decided that Rev. Payne was wrong. He thought that the First Baptist Church ought to leave this matter alone.

REV. BOWLER MAKES AN APPEAL.

Rev. J. Andrew Bowler spoke, begging the church in the name of high heaven to stand by its action. He declared that Rev. Payne had bragged that the First Baptist Church would have to bow to him. If they had done right, they had nothing to fear.

Nelson Williams, Jr., who forged the names to the application for the meeting, approached the chairman and then went back in the audience.

STOOD UP TO BE KNOCKED DOWN.

At the conclusion of Rev. Bowler's remarks, the chair recognized Brother Nelson Williams, Jr., who forged the names to the application for the meeting.

He declared that the whole case was one of prejudice. He was interrupted by Brother H. G. Carter, who stated that he did not see how the speaker could make such a statement. Another case had been before the church that was the result of prejudice.

WANTED LAW READ.

Brother Jonathan resumed his seat and the speaker proceeded. He read from Hiseock's Directory and called for the ruling of the chairman on dealing with elders. The chairman declined to rule. "Give us the law! Give us the law!" yelled the Nelsonites. Chairman Johnson read from the Directory. Brother Nelson Williams, Jr., who forged the names to the application for the meeting, then stated that the reporters could get that and publish it.

AGAIN IN EVIDENCE.

This brought Brother H. F. Jonathan to his feet. He declared that the first publication of the church proceedings had been made by Williams. He thought it strange that after having strayed so far from it, he was so anxious to get near to the guide. He had caused all the trouble. It now seems that he wanted the First Baptist Church to get close to the guide.

TIRED OF SO MUCH TALK.

Deacon Benjamin Jackson arose and called for the pending question. It was declared carried. The vote was put and was declared to be 26 for and 49 against.

The defeated brethren charged fraud, that the church clerk had made a miscount. They were apparently unable to believe their own eyes.

DR. JONES MOTION DEFEATED.

Then the wildest confusion prevailed. Men appeared crazy with passion and then came a demand for a recount. It was granted. This time Pastor Johnson counted the vote and declared the same result. The motion was lost and the First Baptist Church refused to rescind its action, barring Rev. Evans Payne from the pulpit of the First Baptist Church.

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So ended the First Church meeting.

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Rev. Stokes is Pastor.

On Tuesday night, Dec. 31st, 1901 at Price's Hall, the Astoria Beneficial Club carried off the laurels for the season; the occasion being their first installation. The installation address was delivered by Captain Benjamin A. Graves whose remarks were in fitness for the occasion. Mr. Sherwood P. Parker, a good impersonator of Teddy Roosevelt, performed the part of Toast Master in a most comical manner. The speech of the evening was delivered by President Clifton G. Cabell, who was introduced as Chauncey M. Depew, the great dinner speaker. Vice-President Urbane F. Bass as Dr. Rixey was most eloquent in his address of welcome. Then came Mr. Christopher F. Foster as Governor Odell of New York, but now Secretary of the Astoria. The brilliant audience then called for Mark Hanna and to the surprise of many, Mr. Matthew J. Harris took his position as Assistant Secretary. The hero of Santiago was next introduced amidst great applause, and the figure of Mr. Ottoway L. Sampson could be seen gliding to his position as Treasurer. No one thought that Secretary Gage could be Chairman, but in the person of Mr. Richard W. Smith the Club has the right man in the right place. After a pause the audience called for Booker T. Washington, but instead of Washington, came the man who dined him, Teddy Roosevelt, hence Sherwood P. Parker was mustered in as Sergeant-at-Arms.

The Astoria Beneficial Club was organized a few months ago and is to-day the most popular Club in this city. Representatives from the Coronella, Independent, Twentieth Century, Theban and City Gun Clubs responded to the address of welcome.

Mr. Ottoway L. Sampson deserves the many congratulations paid him for his excellent service as Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements.

The table was gorgeously decorated, and the menu consisted of all the delicacies of the season. After spending a most enjoyable evening, the brilliant gathering bade Astoria a prosperous New Year and departed for their several homes.

To enliven the occasion, the following were our guests: Captain and Mrs. H. A. Graves, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Funn, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Bragg, Mr. and Mrs. Dorsey P. Bragg, Mrs. Willie Hawlin, Misses Beresenia and Lizzie Brown, Florence Coleman, Pearl Smith, Louise Mosby, Madeline and Virginia Seay, Pocahontas Hill, Beransenia and Juanita Norrell, Lula Forrester, Lula Edna, Clara Kersey, Rebecca, Dora and Bessie Barrell, Fannie Frazier, Willie Nelson, Bessie Taylor, Sarah Johnson, Otella Johnson, Sadie and Essie Harper, Fannie Bolling and Emily Bland of Petersburg, Ida Crump, Adeline Scott, Annie Smith, Minnie Scott, Marie Sircus, Cora Smith, Lillie Brooks, Annie Frye, Annie Owens, Jersey City, Henry Bolling, James Epps, Roger J. Kyles, Carrol Thomas, Robert Bland, "Star Eye" Miller, Chitman White, Robert Jones, Eugene Jones, Walter Jones, James Frazier, Floyd Pryor, Willie Christian, Fred and Willie Tinsley, Clifton G. Cabell, Urbane F. Bass, Christopher Foster, Matthew Harris, Ottoway T. Sampson, Richard Smith, Sherwood Parker, Sandy Morgan, Willie Pryor, Ira and Willie Nash, Andrew Hunter, Joe Christian, Ohas. Hemmings, Clarence Sircus, Charley Frye, Dewey Leake, Alex. L. Thomas Booker, Joe Burrell, James Jones.

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Among those present were: Messdames Ella Claiborne, president; Mary F. Johnson, vice-president; Millie Allen, secretary; Katie Turner, Eliza Johnson, Catherine Mosby, Laella Watson, Harriet Jones, Woodson Robertson, Louise Cooper, Mary Stokes, Rosa Quarles, Lillie Robertson, Julia Kendall, Laura Coleman, Clarice Spurlock, Rosella Steward, Elvira Johnson, Nellie Allen, Annie Young, Kitty Johnson, M. C. Wines, E. Carter, Eliza Brown, Annie Carter, Bertha Fuller, Manha Brooks, Susana Jackson, Sarah Cox, Hattie Cunningham, Annie Evans, M. E. Holmes, Roberta Coleman, Ada Lewis, Rachel Taylor, Mattie Wilson, Catherine Goode, Laura Williams, B. Jackson, W. W. Davis, Jennie Johnson, Alice Fox, Bell Gardner, Madeline Seay, W. Davis, Lizzie C. Young, Jones, Mary Tomlin, Cora Sheppard, Jennie Cheatham, Janie Winston, M. Brown, Maria Knight, Martha Scruggs, Betsy Pollard, Martha Brown, Millie Brown, N. J. Johnson, Eliza Carter, Nannie Johnson, Elizabeth Scott, Annie Lovings, Lillie Jackson, Bettie Payne, Ida Charity, Roberta Louder, Amanda Archer, —Watkins, Lucy Perkins, Susie Steward, —Thurston, Mary Davis, Irene Brown, Irene Holmes; Misses Cora Hobson, Agnes Norrell, Cora Bright, Lillie Johnson, Mary Logan, Mary Morris, Florence Coleman, Hardina Willis, Minnie Carter, Madeline Seay, Ellen Hill, Ella Jones; Messrs. R. Evans, William Spurlock, Rev. Hughes, Johnson, H. Stokes, Rev. Z. D. Lewis, Charlie Hamilton, John Cox, Edward Coleman, Thomas Louder, Adolphus Jackson.

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ASTORIA TRIUMPHANT.

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ROLL OF HONOR.

VALLEY SCHOOL—WEEK ENDING DEC. 30TH, 1901.

Hattie Kemp, Daisy Thomas, Justine Williams, Irma Brown, Marie Forsay.

4th Grammar—Dora Smith.

3rd Grammar—Clarence Jeter, Harrison Woodson, Blanche Granderson, Lotie Height.